

Mexico City Water Crisis

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Conclusion

The Mexico City Water crisis is way deeper below the surface than it may appear at first. The water crisis is not only affecting the people of the city, but the city itself. Mexico City is sinking at a rapid pace because of the dire need to remove water from below the city. While the redistribution of water can put a band aid on this issue, it will not fix the long-term need of water, nor will it help prevent the city from continuing to sink. Mexico City is in a situation where they must spend money to help save their city from reaching Day Zero. The biggest fear I have with this crisis being resolved is the government taking the right steps to do so. The water crisis is not a new issue. The issue has been ongoing for many years and there have been few steps taken in the right direction. Creating a wastewater treatment plant was a good step for Mexico City, however, it is important that they do not stop with that. It is crucial that the citizens of Mexico continue to put people in office that they believe will do the best thing for Mexico in terms of this water crisis.

Abstract

Mexico City is currently dealing with an ongoing water crisis that has shown very little sign of being resolved. This paper will delve into the deep rooted issues of Mexico City explaining what is causing this water crisis and what some possible solutions may be. Despite Mexico City facing extreme flooding and rainfall, the city is somehow still facing a water crisis. A major problem is that a majority of the city's water supply comes from an aquifer underground. While this may not seem like a big issue, the water is being drained at irreplaceable rates and causing the city to sink rapidly, at about 20 inches per year. Mexico City is one of only eleven cities in the world that are at risk of hitting Day Zero. Day Zero is when the water runs completely dry in a given city. This issue is not being made easier with the steady population growth of Mexico City expecting to hit 30 million by 2030 (McCord, 2021). Along with this, Mexico City cannot ignore the role that climate change is playing. Throughout the paper we will look deeper into these issues.



Data & Details

- Between 60-70% of Mexico City's water supply is pulled from the aquifer under the city.
- Researchers have estimated that natural water availability for the city could fall by 10-17% by 2050 as temperatures continue to rise.
- 35-40% of Mexico City's water supply is being lost every single year because of leaks in pipes.
- Mexico receives 1,539 billion km³ of renewable water each year. After losing 73.2% of the precipitation to evaporation, Mexico is left with 459 billion km³ of usable water each year.
- Only 15% of wastewater gets treated every year. There is about 1.3 billion m³ of wastewater per year in Mexico City.

Learning Objectives

Primary Learning Objective: To develop an understanding of the complexity of the water crisis in Mexico City and the possible solutions.

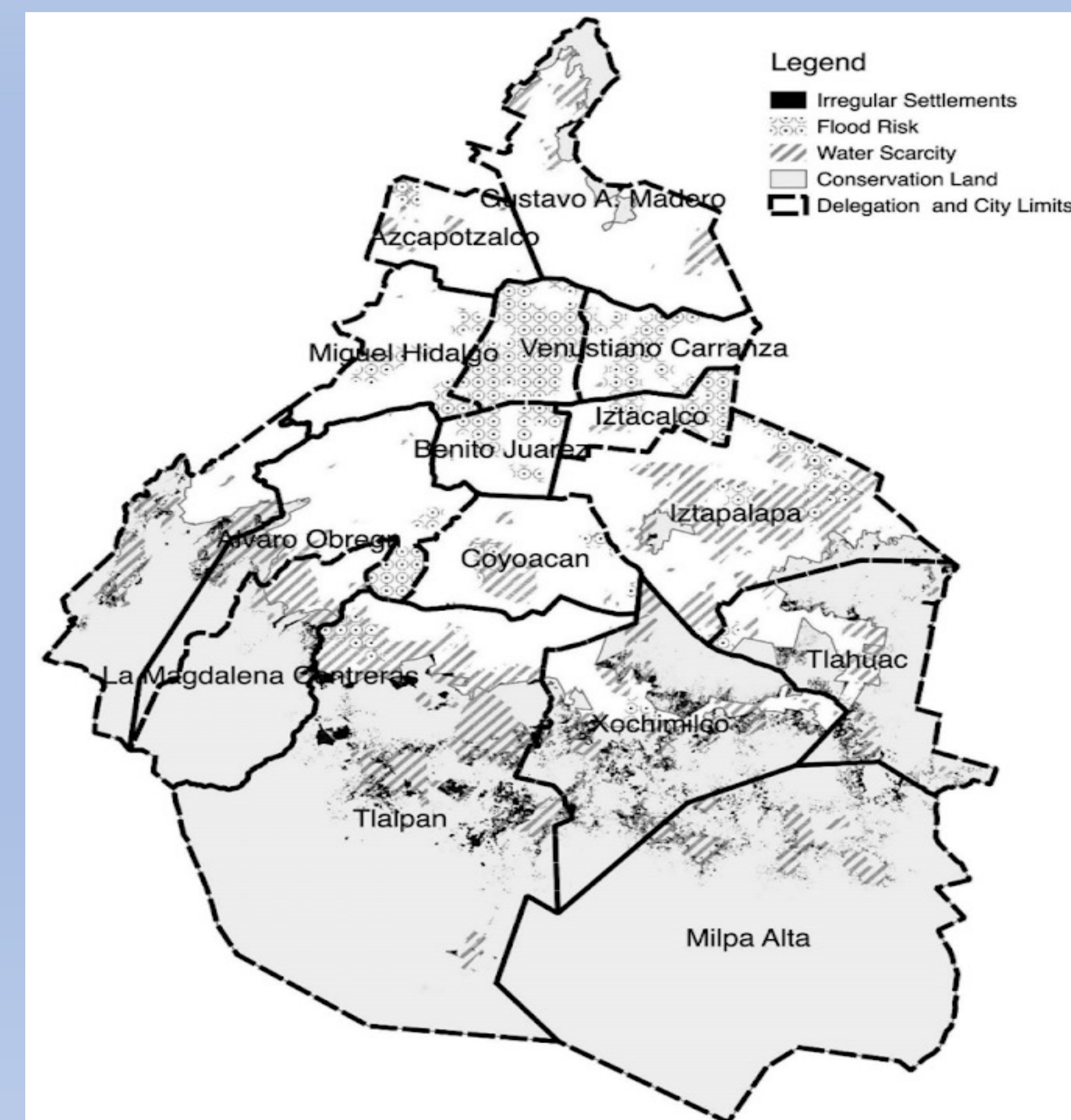
Secondary Learning Objective: To evaluate the impacts of the water crisis on Mexico City holistically and not just on the level of its citizens.

Stakeholders

- Government and Federal District
- Environmentalists
- Domestic Consumers (Poor and Wealthy)
- Bottled Water Producers
- Non-Governmental Organizations

Analysis (Solutions)

- Wastewater Treatment
- Improve Infrastructure
- Water Retaining Systems



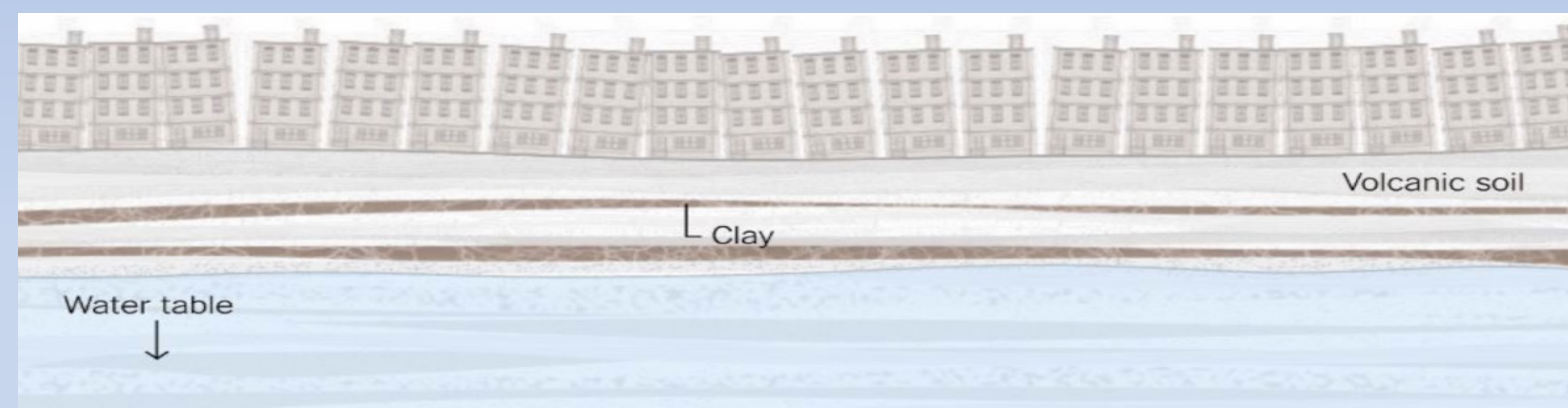
Activity

The case study will be presented in class through the students choosing a stakeholder and fully encompassing that stakeholder. They will need to do extra research to fully understand the way that their stakeholder feels about this issue. After further research, they will argue in favor of the solution that would best help them. If the stakeholder would not like the water crisis to end, then the students will argue for why it is beneficial for the water crisis to continue for their group.

References

Goals and objectives for Mexico - Mexico Water Crisis. Google Sites. (n.d.). Retrieved December 1, 2021, from <https://sites.google.com/site/isat380emexico/goals-and-objectives>.

Stakeholders in Mexico - mexico water crisis. Google Sites. (n.d.). Retrieved December 1, 2021, from <https://sites.google.com/site/isat380emexico/stakeholder-analysis>.



Questions

- What solution do you think seems most reasonable?
- How large of an impact do you think government leaders have on the resolvability of the water crisis?
- What type of impacts does a city sinking have on the city as a whole?